



One of the first steps toward a county high school came when J. Reuben Clark, Jr., of Grantsville, came to Wasatch County to teach high school subjects. Members of his class, pictured here, are, back row, left to right, Frank Conrad, Jay R. Smith, Anna Hatch, J. Reuben Clark, Jr., Lottie Moulton, David Baird. Center Row, Zina Bond, Isabelle Baum, John McDonald and John Neil. Front Row: T. Henry Moulton, Phoebe Bonner, Annie Murdock and Elizabeth Lindsay.

met with a small group of students in the northwest room of the second floor of the Central School.

About this same time, or shortly afterward, Alfred J. Bond taught a group of students in high school work in the upper story of a building occupied by John Winterrose, undertaker. Following Mr. Clark and Mr. Bond were Alfred J. Ridges and O. J. Call who taught high school subjects in the old "Sleepy Hollow" school in the years 1906 and 1907. About 20 students attended their courses.

The present Wasatch High School had its beginnings in 1908 when classwork was started in rooms of the North School with a faculty of three teachers—James Johnson, J. W. Robinson and O. A. Whitaker. Rooms were also rented over the old Heber Mercantile on the corner of Main Street between Center and First South. Some classes were also held in rooms adjoining the old bank just west of the Mercantile.

By 1912 the present pot rock portion of the high school was erected and classwork was conducted on a regular basis. An addition of classrooms and other facilities comprising the right-wing or red brick portion



The first band and orchestra of Wasatch High School in 1908-1909, under the direction of O. A. Whitaker. Pictured are, front row, left to right, Seymour Duke, Minnie Duke and Mazie Campbell; second row, Douglas Murdock, Rolland Wootton, Ben Roberts, Stuart Fortie, Elijah Hicken, Leland Wootton and Walter Burgener. Back row, Sylvan Rasband, Robert McKnight, Adolph Hansen, Abe Turner, Claud Willis, Prof. O. A. Whitaker, William Bond, Guy Duke, Clayton Montgomery, Florence Fisher, Lecia Murdock, Lone Davis and Pearl Buys.

of the school was made in 1927 and provided a permanent home for the high school.

The educational progress of Wasatch High School has been guided during the years by devoted principals. These have included J. W. Robinson, Andrew L. Neff, Owen F. Beal, James Johnson, Fayette Stephens, Wm. J. Bond, Oswald L. Pearson, Lamond F. Hutchings, Edson Packer and Marion Tree.

The early high school curriculum consisted of a few academic subjects taught by the principal and one or two teachers. However, the present program has broadened to include many subjects with as many specialists to do the instruction. In addition there are numerous social, vocational and cultural subjects and extra-curricular opportunities available to the students.

During the years Wasatch High has won success in many school endeavors. Clark J. Crook and Douglas Edwards, a poultry judging team coached by Farrell Olson, represented all of Utah at a National Poultry Congress in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In 1931 the school band, directed by Delmar Dickson, participated

As budding Lily, blushing Rose
 Had grown on the same stem,
 Fair hopes of Future to disclose.
 Sparkling with Love's bright gem:
 Thus they were one in life's swift close.
 Death could not sever them.

Now lie they, soft in dreamless sleep,
 Two flowers without a thorn.—
 Do not in idle sorrow weep:
 Again they will be born,
 T'Eternal Height from Death's dark keep.
 On Resurrection morn.

Midway, February 7th, 1891—L. H.

John Huber was another early day poet. He composed the lyrics to many familiar melodies. Here is one of his original poems that has been set to music.

EVENING

In the twilight of the evening,
 Find we comfort in the breeze,
 When the stillness wakes emotion,
 And a spirit of devotion
 Seems to move among the trees,
 Seems to move among the trees.

Where the songsters are now hidden,
 With their blood in safe repose,
 When the streams are faster flowing
 And the shadows deeper growing,
 As the light a-hiding goes,
 As the light a-hiding goes.

Peace and worship swell the bosom,
 While unbidden bows the knee,
 Heart and thought are turned to yonder.
 Earthly fetters break asunder,
 For, to thought, the worlds are free!
 For, to thought, the worlds are free!

There is joy in meditation,
 Wherein truth our reason starts,
 Though, perhaps, no words are spoken;
 Yet, an angel leaves a token,
 Only known to honest hearts,
 Only known to honest hearts.

CHORUS:

In the twilight of the evening,
 Find we comfort in the gentle breeze,
 When a spirit of devotion
 Seems to move among the shady trees.

John Huber, 1901.

Still another early pioneer poet was Mrs. William Wilson Sr., whose poetic tribute and beautiful descriptions of the valley are still remembered.

One of the outstanding poets and writers of Midway has been Mrs. Emily Springer Coleman. Her writings have included tributes to friends, accounts of pioneer activities and several successful pageants including "The Gate of Heaven," "Women of the Bible," and "From the Cradle to the Grave."

One of her poetry selections, a descriptive piece about Midway, is included here.

MIDWAY, WASATCH CO., UTAH

The little town of Midway
 In the heart of the Wasatch hills,
 Has enough of scenic beauty
 To give every one some thrills.

At the foot of Old Timpanogos,
 Crowned with perpetual snow,
 It nestles in green verdant meadows
 In the beautiful valley below.

On the North is our famous hot-pots,
 The only type in the State,
 On the South, the Provo River,
 Where fishermen cast their bait.

On the west the rolling foot-hills,
 For those who care to climb,
 And gaze on our beautiful hamlet,
 And hear old church bells chime.

On the east a faithful sentinel
 Stands Memorial Hill,
 On its crest granite columns
 Made with artistic skill.

To honor the names of our heros
Who helped defend our land.
Indian, Civil and Spanish,
And World War veterans grand.

We love our changing seasons,
The spring with its verdant green,
The summer aglow with splendor
Fair as an artist's dream.

The autumn, a beautiful gypsy,
In crimson, gold and brown,
That dances in wild abandon
As the leaves come drifting down.

Our winter too is lovely,
In robes of downy white,
Her million crystal diamonds,
Gleaming in morning light.

So if you are seeking nature
And rest from a city hot,
Just come to the town of Midway,
And you'll find a beauty spot.

Composed by Emily S. Coleman

Inspired by the literary efforts of their mother, several of Mrs. Coleman's children have excelled in literature and the arts.

Guy E. Coleman has gained prominence in literary activities as well as civic and business fields. His poems have been published in *The Improvement Era*, *The Lariat*, *Paebur Anthology* and *Utah Sings*. Typical of his writing is this poem:

ON THE HILLS

Artist Autumn tints the vale of Timpanogos
And he spreads his rich oblations on the hills.
Tender tints of cloud-toned sunset add their splendor,
Mystic music rises softly from the rills.

There is wonder in the weave of oak and aspen
Carpeting the steeps in patterns deft, divine,
There is beauty blushing in the crimsoned maples,
Nature-tapestries of exquisite design.

THE SIMPLE JOYS

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There's a charm of lavished color in wild gardens.
Magic when the mellow moon of harvest shines;
And my soul is stirred to tenderest devotions
When I hear the Voice Eternal through the pines.

There is harvest far more bountiful, O farmer,
Than the golden hoard which all your storehouse fills;
There is more than gold, O miner of the mountains,
There is grandeur, glory, God there on the hills.

Guy E. Coleman

Mrs. Letha Coleman Tatge gave her first public reading in 1897 and since that time has constantly served the public as a reader, actress, lecturer and performer. During 1917 she gave programs with President Heber J. Grant for the Liberty Bond drives.

She lectured for the International Chautauqua Bureau of Calgary, Canada, the Ellison-White Bureau of Portland, Ore., the Swarthmore Bureau of Swarthmore, Penn., and the Associated Bureau of Topeka, Kansas.

In addition to dramatic activities in Midway, Mrs. Tatge has appeared in three recent film productions of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. These have been "How Near to the Angels," "Unto the Least of These," and "Until Death Do Us Part."

She has been a world traveler, lecturing in every state of the union, in Canada and Alaska before it became a state. She was selected as "Miss Utah" by the Business and Professional Women of Utah in 1927 and was a delegate to the National BPW convention in Portland, Maine.

Active in organizations of the Church, Mrs. Tatge has also been president of the Wasatch County Daughters of the Utah Pioneers for six years. Her name is included in "Who's Who Among American Women," and she has been featured in the "Citizen's Magazine," "National Business and Professional Women's Magazine," the "Relief Society Magazine," and "The Instructor."

Rose Coleman Hoyt attained high honors in literature at the University of Utah when she served as associate editor of the Pen, the school's literary magazine. She has had many of her poems published, and has been a regular contributor to the Y Magazine at Brigham Young University. In 1944 she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi, national honorary scholastic fraternities. She holds a master's degree in English and literature, and has taught at the University of Utah, University of Oregon, University of Arizona and BYU.

John Coleman was editor of the Utoman yearbook at the University of Utah while he attended the school.

Mrs. Rhea Coleman Guild, who now lives in New Hampshire, has become well known for her lyrical verse. She has had many of her poems published in Eastern papers and magazines.

Another community leader in literature was Theodore B. Miller, who was principal of the Midway schools near the turn of the century. His understanding and love of good literature created an interest in masterpieces and high quality writing. He composed many operettas and dramatic sketches, and wrote the words to many familiar melodies. One of the best known is "Utah, We Love Thee." He left a strong cultural impact in Midway that is still being felt today in the lives of his students.

Another outstanding scholar and writer of Midway is Merrill Van Wagoner who was valedictorian of Wasatch High School in 1935. He specialized in languages in his university training and has written several text books on the Arabic language. He is recognized as one of the country's two top experts on the common Arabic language. He presently serves as superintendent of the Aramco Schools, training employes for service in Arab-speaking countries.

Sylvia Probst Young is another Midway native who has excelled in poetry and prose writing. She has had her work published in Church magazines for more than 20 years, and has also written for the Deseret News, Salt Lake Tribune, the Liahona, Utah Magazine, Utah Pioneer and The Pathfinder. Her poetry has appeared in both volumes of "Utah Sings," and in the "Relief Society Anthology" and "The Contemporary Yearbook of Poetry." She also edited the magazine of the California Mission of the Church while serving as a missionary in that field.

Typical of her poems is this selection.

TO MY MOTHER

So often when I see an evening sky,
Or some high hill bathed by a lingering ray
Of sunlight, when long shadows gently bring
The close of day —

So often then I think of you, dear one,
Who loved the eventide, and you must know
From you I learned to mark the shadowed light,
The crimson afterglow —

When birds have gone to rest and when the night
Is ushered in by one, lone, crystal star,
So often then I think that you are near —
I hope you are.

Sylvia Probst Young

Carrie Wright Probst has also written articles and pageants for town and Church presentations, and is the author of many poems for special occasions.

During 1960 several Midway women who were active in writing fields formed a writer's group to study literature and careers in writing. Some who have been active in this group include Mrs. Orma Whitaker Wallengren, Mrs. Shirley Chatwin, Mrs. Mary Peterson and Mrs. Mildred Larsen. Mrs. Wallengren is a very successful writer in the field of TV and radio script.

DANCING

Though not practiced as an art of any magnitude, dancing in Midway has always been a part of the cultural scene. Entertainment dancing has constantly been part of the community life, and has been supplemented by ballet and creative dancing. Miss Valerie Jones, queen of the 1960 Wasatch County Fair, has been the most prominent in artistic dancing. She teaches several classes in addition to her own performances, and has provided scores of programs with her dancing and singing groups. In the earlier life of Midway, step-dancing was extremely popular. Some of the outstanding dancers were Eliza Van Wagoner Epperson, Robert B. Ross, Alvah J. Alexander and Charles I. Bronson.

Recently, folk dancing has been revived in the community. It is being taught in the Midway schools very successfully. Each spring a Folk Dance Festival is presented by students of the schools.

DRAMATICS

In early Midway days, when there were no electric lights, radios, moving pictures, television programs, and not even medicine shows, minstrel shows or traveling stock companies, people had to improvise and create their own entertainment. They often held campfire parties, dances in the town hall, took hayrides on summer evenings or bobsled rides in the winter and turned to the production of plays as recreation and entertainment.

Dramatic clubs were organized to produce the early plays, and from newspaper clippings, diaries and information in private collections it can be surmised that the plays were well presented and very well attended and enjoyed. Typical of the dramas presented were "The Noble Outcast," and "Bound By An Oath."

Those mentioned prominently in early Midway dramatics were John Morton, Attewell Wootton Sr., Robert B. Ross Jr., Henry T. Coleman, Simon Epperson, John T. Van Wagoner, William Matthews, Caroline Wardell, Ella Alexander Ross, Avis Bronson Van Wagoner, Emily Springer Coleman, Lillie Springer Alexander and Birdie Huffaker.

Dramatics has continued to be a popular pastime in Midway in the 1900's. In recent years the Church has sponsored nearly all the plays and drama work. However, community productions were still important events in the years between the two World Wars. Some of the plays that were most successful included "Down East," "The Octoroom," "Joe

Ruggles," "Millie the Quadroon," "In Old Arizona," "Old R.F.D.," as well as many old-time melodrama productions.

Some of the players included the following: George A. Huntington, George J. Wilson, Joseph E. Huber, Nathan C. Springer, David A. Wootton, Henry S. Coleman, Joseph Van Wagoner, Dermont Huffaker, Guy Coleman, Vernal Huffaker, Samuel Burgi, Nate C. Coleman, Reed Alder, John (Jack) Buehler, Dale Coleman, LaMont McQuarrie, William Tate, Edward Wootton, Keith Coleman, William Carmack, Luella Van Wagoner Brienholt, Vera Epperson Clayton, Ida Bonner Wootton, Eva Bonner Jensen, Lethe Coleman Tatge, Merle Coleman Madsen, Teresa Abplanalp Coleman, Lota Huffaker Wilson, Ellen Wilson Ellertson, Edith Bronson Van Waggoner, Ruth Coleman Phillips, Birdine Huffaker Tippetts, Rhea Coleman Guild, Chloe Coleman Madsen, Jennie Epperson Ross and Mabel Van Wagoner Workman.

In Church drama work Mrs. Maud Derry has made many valuable contributions, along with Marie Kohler, Mrs. Emily Coleman, Lethe Tatge, Merle Dean, Teresa Abplanalp Coleman and Carrie Probst.

One outstanding dramatic winter in Midway saw the production



A dramatic achievement in Midway was a pageant presented by the Midway First Ward in 1921. Careful detail was given to costumes and the decorations, as shown here in this photograph. Participants shown here, facing the camera are Kenneth Van Wagoner, Margaret Young Van Wagoner with baby Dale, June Van Wagoner, Bernice Alder and Leona Abegglen (both standing), Margaret Faucett Van Wagoner, Maud Coleman and Teresa Coleman. Girls in the front not facing the camera include Marjorie Alder, Beulah Giles, Belva Van Wagoner, Madeline Stewart and Melba Holmes.

of seven plays during the winter season. Eva Wilson, Blanche Wilson Pryor and Belva Wilson Broadbent produced the plays, with principal players including Geneva Burgener, Fern Provost, Ruth and Tommy Schneitter, Roy Huffaker, Blanche and Belva Wilson, Ruth Coleman, Lucille Hasler and Roy Huntington.

Outstanding drama directors have included Emily S. Coleman, William Matthews, George J. Wilson and Lethe Tatge. Character actors of professional quality have been William Mathews, George J. Wilson, Joseph E. Huber, Nathan C. Springer, Edward Wootton and Guy E. Coleman.

HENRY THRELKELD COLEMAN & EMILY SPRINGER COLEMAN



Bishop of Midway First Ward—1906-1913.

Henry T. Coleman was born November 20, 1863, in Big Cottonwood, Salt Lake County, Utah. He was the only son of Henry and Mary Jane Threlkeld Coleman. The family moved to Midway in 1864. He married Emily M. Springer on December 31, 1889. They had eleven children, ten of whom lived to adulthood.

Mr. Coleman was blessed December, 1863, in Big Cottonwood by Bishop Brinton. He was baptized in 1873 by Peter Abplanalp, Sr., and like many others at that time was re-baptized in 1880 by Elijah Alder and confirmed by John Huber. He was ordained a teacher in 1881 by David Van Wagoner; as an Elder in 1890 by Bishop David Van Wagoner; as a High Priest by Apostle Hyrum M. Smith in 1906. He was an acting teacher with John Van Wagoner, Sr., in 1881, with John Sonderegger in 1890. In 1890 he was chosen as the secretary of the

2nd Quorum of Elders to Adam Empey as President. In 1892 he was chosen as 2nd counselor in the 2nd Quorum of Elders with D. L. Van Wagoner as president, John A. Wootton as 1st counselor, and John E. Morton as secretary. In 1905 he was set apart by Bishop Joseph Francom as the 1st counselor in the YMMIA with Atwell Wootton, Jr., president; John Van Wagoner, 2nd counselor; and Robert Ross, secretary. In 1906 he was set apart as Bishop of the Midway First Ward under the hands of Apostle Hyrum M. Smith, with John U. Buehler as his first counselor, William L. Van Wagoner as his second counselor, and Charles E. Bronson as clerk. When Brother Buehler moved away, he chose William L. Van Wagoner as 1st counselor and William W. Wilson as his second counselor. When Charles Bronson went on his mission, he chose Simon Epperson to be the ward clerk. In October, 1913, Bishop Coleman was sustained as a member of the Wasatch Stake High Council and was set apart by Apostle James E. Talmage. In 1920 he was ordained the Patriarch of Wasatch Stake by the Church Patriarch, Hyrum G. Smith. This position he held at his death.

Mr. Coleman was appointed constable of Midway in 1892 by the Governor of the Territory of Utah, Arthur L. Thomas. He was made a trustee of the Midway Town Board in 1897. In 1898 he was appointed road supervisor of the Midway roads. He was president of the Midway Water Works from 1900 to 1906. He was elected a member of the Wasatch County Commission in 1900, and served until 1907. He was elected a member of the Midway Town Board in 1907. He served on the Draft Board during World War I. He was appointed as an agent of the United States Public Service Bureau by the U.S. Secretary of Labor, W. B. Nelson, in 1918; and was appointed a delegate to the Mountain Congress for a League of Nations by Governor Simon Bamberger in 1919. He was crop and pests inspector of Wasatch County in 1919-1921. He was elected president of the Wasatch County Chamber of Commerce in 1930. He was appointed a member of the Utah State Defense Council in 1942, was a member of the Selective Service Board from 1942 to 1947. He was a director of the Heber Bank. He served as State Road Foreman in Wasatch County for twenty-six years.

He died May 13, 1952, in Midway, and was buried in the Midway Cemetery. Emily Matilda Springer Coleman was born September 6, 1868, in Midway. She was the daughter of Nathan Chatmond Springer and Matilda Robey. She was married to Henry Threlkeld Coleman on December 31, 1889, in Midway, and the marriage was later solemnized in the Salt Lake Temple.

Emily came into the world one bright autumn Sabbath morning, the first-born of her goodly parents. The beautiful early morning birth heralded the joy and brightness of this lovely person. She learned easily and quickly. She was talented and capable from her very early childhood. She was a born executive and leader. She could sing, play the organ and write well at an early age. She had exceptional dramatic ability. While still in the elementary school, she assisted Atwell Wootton, the teacher, with his reading groups. At fourteen years of age she was a teacher in the Sunday School, and continued from then on to work in the Church.

After the death of her father she was a great comfort and help to her mother and family. She and her husband lived close to the Robeys and Springers and proved a pillar of strength to them.

Mrs. Coleman is the mother of eleven children, ten of them still living—all prosperous, talented citizens. She is the author of many lovely poems and pageants. She directed scores of pageants, programs and plays. She sang in the choir and was a member of the Singing Mothers until her advanced years prevented participation. She will be ninety-one years old in September, 1959.

She taught in the Mutual Improvement Association in her youth. She was president of the primary in the Midway First Ward, president of the Midway First Ward Relief Society for thirteen years and counselor for five years. She was a member of the Wasatch Stake Sunday School Board, the Stake Mutual Improvement Association Board, the Stake Relief Society Board. She has been a teacher in the Sunday School and the Relief Society, and was the genealogical leader of the Midway First Ward.

She was the Charter Captain of the Hawthorne Camp of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, first vice-president to county

president Jane Turner of the DUP, first vice-president to county president Emma Wherritt of the DUP, county chaplain of the DUP.

She was chairman of the Red Cross in Midway, and co-chairman of the Liberty Bond Drive. She was a member of the Midway Dramatic Club, correspondent for the Wasatch Wave for forty years. She has spoken at many funerals, and presented innumerable programs. She was the Wasatch County Mother of the Year in 1955. She has traveled extensively.

The home of Henry and Emily Coleman has always been a gathering place, abounding in friendliness, cheer and hospitality.

Mrs. Coleman died at her home on March 15, 1961, and was buried in the Midway Cemetery.

At the time of her death, an editorial in the Wasatch Wave of April 6, 1961, entitled "A Grand Old Lady—Emily Coleman," said the following:

"The grand old lady of Wasatch County passed away last month, leaving a vacancy in the hearts of an entire community.

"Mrs. Emily Coleman, known affectionately as "Grandma" to hundreds of younger friends, left at her death a heritage of ten children, 26 grandchildren, 54 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren spread across the world from Midway to Australia.

"In addition, her friends numbered in the thousands: Midway First Ward Chapel, scene of her funeral, overflowed with the crowd present to pay their final respects, and notes of sympathy continue to pour in from far and wide.

"A correspondent for the Wasatch Wave for 40 years, Grandma Coleman served her church and community faithfully in many capacities.

"Grandma Coleman had been around for 92 years, so her passing came as no shock to family and friends. But those 92 years had been so filled with doing and giving and loving that she had become a permanent part of Wasatch County; her handsome, hospitable Midway home a haven for relatives and neighbors who found her perennial youth, her warmth and sparkle irresistible.

"Just as the gay patchwork cushion covers she worked at cheer the homes of her many friends here, so will the memory of Grandma Coleman cheer for years to come all whose lives she touched with hers."

Children of Henry Threlkeld Coleman and Emily Matilda Springer:

Henry Springer, married Viva Christine Orrock;

Guy Ellsworth, married Teresa Aplanalp;

Mrs. Francis C. (Lethe Belle) Tatge;

Mrs. C. Elmer (Merle Vivienne) Madsen;

Glen Robey, died in infancy;

Nathan Chatmond, married Cleo Stubbs, who died, and Esther Johnson;

Keith Threlkeld, married Hazel Mae Blood;

Dale Franklin, married Nancy Helen Doolin;

Mrs. Laurence Winfield (Rhea Lillian) Guild;

Mrs. Reed A. (Ruth May) Phillips;

Mrs. George Frank (Jessie Chloe) Madsen.

LITERATURE

Residents of Midway have always taken an interest in literature, and many of them have written for publication selections of prose and poetry of high literary and artistic quality.

The first writer to be recognized in Midway was Leo Haefeli, who left his native Germany in 1874 to come to America. He was employed as a journalist in Salt Lake City and Ogden until about 1889 when he came to Midway to teach school. During the year 1891 a severe diphtheria epidemic brought death to many Midway residents. Two of the victims were daughters of Mr. and Mrs. George Bunnell. Their deaths touched Prof. Haefeli and he wrote in tribute to them the following poem:

LILY AND ROSE

There blossomed round your family tree
Two flowers sweet and bright;
The blushing Rose you there could see,
The winsome Lily white,
And Love's close blending harmony
Two sisters did unite.

A happy life's unclouded sun
Their tender buds did greet:
So harmless in their childish fun,
In innocen e so sweet,
Where one in frolic gay would run,
The other's smile you'd meet.

One morn saw Rose and Lily rise
With health in hopeful bloom,
Then over the two blended skies
There spread one ominous gloom,
And now two hearts most tender ties
And sunk in grave and tomb.

As budding Lily, blushing Rose
 Had grown on the same stem,
 Fair hopes of Future to disclose.
 Sparkling with Love's bright gem:
 Thus they were one in life's swift close,
 Death could not sever them.

Now lie they, soft in dreamless sleep,
 Two flowers without a thorn.—
 Do not in idle sorrow weep:
 Again they will be born,
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